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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Application Number | 09/909,735 |
| Filing Date | July 20, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | John T. Loh |
| Art Unit | 1651 |
| Examiner Name | Leon B. Lankford, Jr. |
| Attorney Docket Number | UTR-103XC1 |

Sheet

1

of

2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <i>W</i> | U1 | US-5,432,079 | 07-11-1995 | Johansen <i>et al.</i> | All |
| | U2 | US- | | | |
| | U3 | US- | | | |
| | U4 | US- | | | |
| | U5 | US- | | | |
| | U6 | US- | | | |
| | U7 | US- | | | |
| | U8 | US- | | | |
| | U9 | US- | | | |
| | U10 | US- | | | |
| | U11 | US- | | | |
| | U12 | US- | | | |
| | U13 | US- | | | |
| | U14 | US- | | | |
| | U15 | US- | | | |
| | U16 | US- | | | |
| | U17 | US- | | | |
| | U18 | US- | | | |
| | U19 | US- | | | |
| | U20 | US- | | | |

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

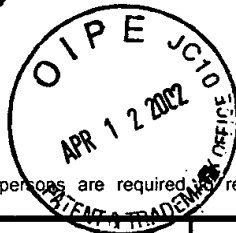
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| <i>W</i> | F1 | JP 09224654 Abstract | 09-02-1997 | Nisshin Oil Mills Ltd: The; | All | |
| <i>2</i> | F2 | WO 99/27786 | 06-10-1999 | University of Nottingham | All | |
| | F3 | | | | | |
| | F4 | | | | | |
| | F5 | | | | | |
| | F6 | | | | | |
| | F7 | | | | | |
| | F8 | | | | | |
| | F9 | | | | | |
| | F10 | | | | | |

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Signature*Lankford*Date
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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| Group Art Unit | 1651 |
| Examiner Name | Leon B. Lankford, Jr. |
| Attorney Docket Number | UTR-103XC1 |

Sheet 2 of 2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| ✓ | R1 | FUHRMANN, J. and A.G. WOLLUM II [1989] "Nodulation competition among <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> strains as influenced by rhizosphere bacteria and iron availability", <i>Biology and Fertility of Soils</i> , 7:108-112, Springer-Verlag | |
| | R2 | GROB <i>et al.</i> [1993] "A novel response-regulator is able to suppress the nodulation defect of a <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum nodW</i> mutant", <i>Mol. Gen. Genet.</i> 241:531-541, Springer-Verlag | |
| | R3 | LESUEUR <i>et al.</i> [1993] "Iron requirement and siderophore production in <i>Bradyrhizobium</i> strains isolated from <i>Acacia mangium</i> ", <i>Journal of Applied Bacteriology</i> , 74: 675-682 | |
| ↓ | R4 | VAN ROSSUM <i>et al.</i> [1994] "Siderophore production by <i>Bradyrhizobium</i> spp. strains nodulating groundnut <i>Plant and Soil</i> , 163:177-187, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Netherlands | |
| | R5 | | |
| | R6 | | |
| | R7 | | |
| | R8 | | |
| | R9 | | |
| | R10 | | |
| | R11 | | |
| | R12 | | |
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